

# California Fair Political Practices Commission

May 28, 1986

Lorraine Magana City of Sacramento 915 I Street, Room 203 Sacramento, CA 95814

> Re: Your Request for Advice Our File No. I-86-115

Dear Ms. Magana:

This is in response to your April 2, 1986 letter requesting this office to review a legal opinion issued by the City Attorney's Office. That legal opinion was not attached to your letter and was forwarded in your subsequent April 29 correspondence.

In February the city received a request for campaign statements, some dating back to 1981. Your staff spent approximately 29 hours to locate and retrieve these statements. The city attempted to collect a research and retrieval fee from the requestor, but was promptly informed that the Political Reform Act prohibited such an assessment and that you could only charge ten cents per page. Anne Mason of your staff then asked the City Attorney's Office for an opinion on the issue.

Diane B. Balter, a Deputy City Attorney, concluded in a memorandum that no more than ten cents per page could be charged for inspection and reproduction of statements under the Political Reform Act. Her opinion is correct.

Government Code Section 81008 provides in pertinent part that "...No conditions whatsoever shall be imposed upon persons desiring to inspect or reproduce reports and statements filed under this title, nor shall any information or identification be required from such persons. Copies shall be provided at a charge not to exceed ten cents (\$ .10) per page."

The Political Reform Act was enacted as an initiative measure by a two-thirds vote of the people in 1974. One of the Act's original purposes was to provide that the contributors of

Ms. Lorraine Magana May 28, 1986 Page 2

campaign funds should be fully and truthfully disclosed so the voters are fully apprised in making their voting decisions. Once officials are elected, their financial interests are further disclosed so the public is apprised of potential conflicts of interest.

The statements of economic interests and campaign statements should be made readily available to the public without an undue financial burden placed on the requestor.

Section 81009 provides that "After an original report or statement or a copy has been on file for at least two years, the officer with whom it is filed may comply with this section by retaining a copy on microfilm or other space-saving materials available for public inspection instead of the original report or statement or copy." (emphasis added)

You indicated in your letter that your staff expended over 29 hours to retrieve these statements. The Commission is sympathetic to your concerns. We would be happy to meet with your staff to offer suggestions for procedures you could implement to facilitate retrieval of stored statements. statewide filing officer for many thousands of Statements of Economic Interests filed each year, the Commission has established an inexpensive but very effective system for storage and retrieval of statements dating back 11 years. Jeanne Pritchard of our Technical Assistance and Analysis Division will call you soon to discuss this.

Sincerely,

Jéanette Turvill Legal Assistant

Legal Division

JT:sm



THE CITY OF

# SAN DIEGO

CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING • 202 C STREET • SÂN ĐIEGO, CALIF. 92101

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Office of the CITY CLERK 236-5450

CHARLES G. ABDELNOUR, J.D. City Clerk, C.M.C.

July 23, 1986

Lorraine Magana City Clerk of Sacramento 915 I Street, Rocm 203 Sacramento, CA. 95814

Dear Lorraine:

I have reviewed your request to the FPPC to revise the schedule of compensation allowable under the Political Reform Act for reproduction of campaign statements and statements of economic interest.

We also had a request from the California Commission on Campaign Financing for over 6,000 pages. We regularly receive requests for several hundred pages.

However, while all inactive reports are stored in our Records Center, with our Records Management program index system our research and retrieval cost is very minimal. At the present time, our cost to reproduce a document is less than 10¢ per page, labor included.

Therefore, we could not currently support a move to increase the fee we charge the public. It is our position that we are providing an important public service and until the cost of this public service increases substantially, the current fee schedule is adequate.

Sincerely,

Charles G. Abdelnour

City Clerk

CGA:mc32

cc: Jeanette Turvill, FPPC Legal Division /
Lee Martinez, CCAC Legislative Director



# CITY OF SACRAMENTO

# OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

CITY CLERK

LORRAINE MAGANA CITY CLERK

April 29, 1986

Jeanette E. Turvill, Legal Assistant Fair Political Practices Commission Legal Division P.O. Box 807 Sacramento, CA 95804

Dear Ms. Turvill:

Enclosed is a copy of the legal opinion issued by the City Attorney's office regarding Government Code Section 81008 relating to research fees required when extensive research, retrieval or compiling of information is requested.

This is in response to your letter dated April 23, 1986 requesting the above mentioned information that was not attached to your letter from this office regarding research fees.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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enclosure



# California Fair Political Practices Commission

April 23,1986

Lorraine Magana, City Clerk City of Sacramento 915 I Street, City Hall, Room 203 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Your Request for Advice

Our File No. 86-115

Dear Ms. Magana:

We have received your April 2, 1986, letter requesting written advice concerning your request that we review a legal opinion issued by the city attorney's office.

We will be happy to provide written advice; however, in order to respond to your letter, we will need the additional information listed below. Regulation 2 Cal. Adm. Code Section 18329 (copy enclosed) requires that this information be provided before we can act on your request for advice.

The first paragraph of your letter requests we review a legal opinion which is attached. That opinion was not however attached.

Please provide this information by May 23, 1986, so that we can respond to your letter in a timely manner. If you cannot provide the information by that date, please contact this office. If we do not hear from you by May 23, 1986, we will have to assume that you have withdrawn your request for advice.

When we have received the additional information, your request for advice will be assigned to a member of our staff for review and response. Written advice is generally provided within 21 working days after all pertinent information has been received.

Please contact this office at (916) 322-5901 if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Jeanette E. Turvill Legal Assistant

Legal Division

JET:plh Enclosure



# **CITY OF SACRAMENTO**

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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CITY CLERK

LORRAINE MAGANA CITY CLERK

April 2, 1986

State of California Fair Political Practices Commission P.O. Box 807 Sacramento, CA 95804

ATTENTION:

Executive/Legal Division

Dear Sir:

# SUMMARY

This office is requesting that you review the legal opinion issued by the Attorney's office for the City of Sacramento which is attached. The City of Sacramento has a City Council adopted resolution which allows this office to charge a research fee of \$16.00 per hour when extensive research, retrieval or compiling of information is requested.

# BACKGROUND

In the first part of February, Bob Stern, California Commission on Campaign Financing, located at 10951 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, called our office and requested campaign statements for successful and unsuccessful candidates since 1981. These records were located in three different storage facilities, two which were off site.

After this office had invested 12 manhours to pull some of the records, a call was placed to Mr. Stern requesting a deposit to cover the retrieval, compiling and copying costs. Mr. Stern informed Anne Mason, Assistant City Clerk, that the Act prohibited the City from charging any fee for retrieval or compiling of material and that only the ten cents for copying per page was allowed under the Act. Mrs. Mason requested a legal opinion from the City Attorney's office regarding the matter.

Upon receiving the legal opinion from the City Attorney's office, Mrs. Mason contacted Mr. Stern and informed him of the decision. He was most obliging in forwarding a deposit for the copying. The project has been completed and a total of  $29\frac{1}{2}$  manhours were expended to fulfill the request.

Fair Political Practices Commission April 2, 1986 Page 2

# CONCLUSION

1. If the FPPC legal staff concurs with the legal opinion issued by the Attorney's office for the City of Sacramento:

If your legal staff concurs with the legal opinion issued by the City Attorney's office, this office requests that you explore legislation which would allow a legislative body for a local municipality to adopt fees to recover manhours expended on retrieval or compiling of requested data for campaign statements or conflict of interest statements over and above the ten cent copying charge.

2. If the FPPC legal staff does not concur with the legal opinion issued by the Attorney's office for the City of Sacramento:

If your legal staff does not concur with the legal opinion issued by the City Attorney's office, it is requested that you draft a legal opinion and forward to this office. This office will then notify the City Clerk and County Clerk Associations of the legal opinion.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Magana

City Clerk

LM/dbp



# CITY OF SACRAMENTO

TO JAMES P. JACKSON City Attorney THEODORE IL KOBLY, JR. 120 27 + 17 / WASSISTANT CITY Afterney SAMUEL L. JACKSON WILLIAM P. CARNAZZO LAWRENCE M. LUNARDINI DIANE B. BALTER RICHARD F. ANTOINE TAMARA L MILLIGAN-HARMON Deputy City Miorneys

February 25, 1986

## DEPARTMENT O F

812 TENTH STREET SUITE 201

SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 TELEPHONE (916) 449-5346

**MEMORANDUM** 

TO:

Lorraine Magana, City Clerk

Anne Mason, Assistant City Clerk

FROM:

Diane B. Balter

Deputy City Attorney

RE:

Inspection and Reproduction of Campaign Statements

and Statements of Economic Interests

Government Code Section 81008 prohibits charging any fee for inspection or reproduction of campaign statements and statements of economic interest, except ten cents per page for copies provided. This applies to both current and past filings. A research fee over and above the ten cents per page may not be charged.

The standard City policy regarding research fees on citizen requests for public records may not be applied to requests for these particular items.

For your convenience, a copy of Section 81008 is attached.

DIANE B.

Deputy City Attorney

DBB: rmm

Attachment

# § 81005.2 [Repealed by Stats 1979 ch 674 § 1.]

# § 81006. Filling fees

Except as provided in this title, no fee or charge shall be collected by any officer for the filing of any report or statement or for the forms upon which reports or statements are to be prepared.

# Amended Stats 1985 ch 1183 § 1, effective September 29, 1985.

1985 Amendment: (1) Added "Except as provided in this title,"; and (2) deleted ", except that lobbyists may be charged not more than twenty-five dollars (\$25) per year for registration" at the end of the section.

# § 81008. Inspection of reports: Fee for copies

Every report and statement filed pursuant to this title is a public record open for public inspection and reproduction during regular business hours, commencing as soon as practicable, but in any event not later than the second business day following the day on which it was received. No conditions whatsoever shall be imposed upon persons desiring to inspect or reproduce reports and statements filed under this title, nor shall any information or identification be required from such persons. Copies shall be provided at a charge not to exceed ten cents (\$0.10) per page. Campaign statements shall be open for public inspection and reproduction from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday preceding an election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June or November in even-numbered years in the offices of Secretary of State, Registrar-Recorder of Los Angeles County, Registrar of Voters of San Diego County and Registrar of Voters of the City and County of San Francisco. Amended Stats 1979 ch 531 § 1.

## Amendments:

1979 Amendment: Substituted all that part following "5:00 p.m. on the Saturday" for "and Sunday preceding a statewide election" at the end of the section.

Note -Stats 1979 ch 531 also provides: § 7. The amendment effected by this act shall not be construed to deprive any person or public agency of any substantial rights or duty which would have existed or hereafter exists had such amendment not been effected.

§ 8. The Legislature finds and declares that the provisions of this act further the purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 within the meaning of subdivision (\*) or Section 81012 of the Government Code

# § 81009. Period for retention of campaign reports or statements in connection with election: Microfilming: Public inspection

- (a) Statements of organization, registration statements, and original campaign statements of persons holding elective state office, candidates for any such office, committees supporting any such officeholder or candidate, and committees supporting or opposing statewide measures, shall be retained by filing
- (b) Original campaign statements of mayors, city council members, county supervisors, candidates for any of these offices, and committees supporting any officeholder or candidate shall be retained indefinitely, except that original campaign statements of candidates not elected to these offices and of committees supporting candidates not elected to these offices shall be retained by filing officers for a period of not less than five years.
- (c) Original campaign statements of all other persons shall be retained by filing officers for a period of not less than seven years.
- (d) Original statements of economic interests of persons holding statewide elective office shall be retained by filing officers indefinitely.
- (e) Original reports and statements not specified above in this section shall be retained by filing officers for a period of not less than seven years.
- (f) Copies of reports or statements shall be retained by the officer with whom they are filed for a period of not less than four years, provided, however, that a filing officer is not required to retain more than one copy of a report or statement.
- (g) After an original report or statement or a copy has been on file for at least two years, the officer with whom it is filed may comply with this section by retaining a copy on microfilm or other space-saving materials available for public inspection instead of the original report or statement or copy. Upon request, the officer shall provide copies of such statements pursuant to Section 81008.

Amended Stata 1979 ch 521 52, Stata 1984 ch 390 \$1, effective July 11, 1984; Stata 1985 ch 1185 \$2, effective September 29, 1985.

# Amendments:

1779 Amendment: (1) Added the proviso in subd (e); and (2) amended subd (f) by (a) substituting "two years" for "four years" in the first sentence, and (b) adding the second sentence.

1934 Amendment: (1) Deleted "mayors, city council members, county supervisors," after "campaign statements of" in

subd (a); (2) added subd (b); and (3) redesignated former subds (b)-(f) to be subds (c)-(g).

1955 \*tmcrement (1) Deleted "of lobbytsts" after "registration statements" in subd (a); and (2) added "instead of the ong. a report or state sent or copy" in subd (g).

Note -See notes following § \$1008.

# § 81009.5. Filing requirement for local government agency; Ordinances with additional filing require-

- (a) Any local government agency which has enacted, enacts, amends, or repeals an ordinance or other provision of law affecting campaign contributions and expenditures shall file a copy of the action with the
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section \$1013, no local government agency shall enact any ordinance imposing filing requirements additional to or different from those set forth in Chapter 4 for

136 [15 Gov Code]

# **GOVERNMENT CODE**

dections held in its jurisdiction unl candidates seeking election in tha primarily to support or oppose the oppose a local ballot measure which Added Stats 1979 ch 531 § 3; Amended S Amendments

1985 Amendment: (1) Added subdivision (a); and (3) added subd (b).

Note -See note following § 81008.

# § 81010. Filing officer's duties

Late filing fees should not be assessed statement is submitted on an incorrect for required information is included and the filed promptly. However, late filing fees sh if unsigned forms are filed. Layton, Res Los Angeles | FPPC | 113 (No. 75-072, Au

Filing officers have discretionary autho-

# § 81011. [Repealed by Stats 1985 ch See § 82025.5.

A public official may determine the vagift by making a reasonable estimate ba faith effort; there is no need to retain the outside appraiser. Cory, Ken, State Con. 153 (No. 75-094-B, Oct. 23, 1975).

A parking pass received by an official fe official business would be a gift if it is us purposes unrelated to the official's duties. gift will be determined by the value derive of the pass for personal purposes and t reportable if its value is \$25 or more overruled a previous Commission opunc Cory-Cory, Ken. State Controller, 1 FP! 047, August 7, 1975). Thomas, William, FPPC 30 (No. 76-085, Feb. 1, 1977).

To determine the value of free air tran

# § 81012. Amendment or repeal of title This title may be amended or repea aubdivision (a) is declared invalid, t repealing this title.

- (a) This title may be amended to fur entered in the journal, two-thirds of 12 days prior to passage in each hous distribution to the news media and to such bills to him or her.
- (b) This title may be amended or repo electors.

Amended Stats 1985 ch 1200 § 1.

1985 Amendment: (1) Substituted "subdivamended subd (a) by (a) substituting "12 in

# § 81013. Additional requirements: Cor Limitations on ordinances imposing addition

A chartered city does not have the aut an ordinance which differs from and supepaign finance disclosure provisions of the ? Act. A chartered city may, however, mawhich imposes additional disclosure requiadditional requirements do not prevent o the Act. Miller, Edwin L. District Attorne FPPC 91 (Na. 75-125, June 6, 1976).

Section \$7309(c) prohibits code review: exceeding the requirements of Section 8730

§ 82002, "Administrative action"

[15 Gov Code]